

CLAIMS

1. A method for reducing the formation of a byproduct polypeptide containing an O-acetylserine residue in place of a serine residue by adding at least one of histidine, methionine or glycine to the medium in a method for producing a polypeptide containing a serine residue by culturing transformed cells.
2. A method for producing a polypeptide containing a serine residue by culturing transformed cells, characterized by reducing the formation of a byproduct polypeptide containing an O-acetylserine residue in place of a serine residue by adding at least one of histidine, methionine or glycine to the medium.
3. The method as defined in Claim 1 or 2 wherein the host cell is a prokaryotic cell or an eukaryotic cell in a method for producing a polypeptide containing a serine residue by culturing transformed cells.
4. The method as defined in Claim 3 wherein the host cell is a microorganism.
5. The method as defined in Claim 4 wherein the microorganism is Escherichia coli.
6. The method as defined in any one of Claims 1 to 5 wherein the molecular weight of the polypeptide containing a serine residue is about 1000 to 20000.
7. The method as defined in any one of Claims 1 to 6 wherein the polypeptide containing a serine residue is an atrial natriuretic peptide.

8. The method as defined in Claim 7 wherein the atrial natriuretic peptide is human atrial natriuretic peptide.